

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) A stain-resistant, acid-dyed nylon filament having a core and a sheath which surrounds entirely said core and is present in an amount of less than about 10 wt.% of the filament, wherein said core is formed of a nylon core polymer having an amine end group (AEG) content of between about 10 meq/kg which is susceptible to dyeing by an acid dye bath chemical, and wherein said sheath is formed of a nylon sheath polymer which is resistant to dyeing by said acid dye bath chemical, and wherein said filament is dyed such that said acid dye bath chemical physically diffuses or migrates through said nylon sheath polymer to cause the nylon core polymer to be dyed a color of the acid dye bath chemical, while the sheath polymer is substantially undyed thereby.

21. (Original) The filament of claim 20, which is a trilobal filament

22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently Amended) The filament of claim 22 claim 20, which has between about 90 wt.% to about 97 wt.% of the core polymer, and between about 3 wt.% to about 10 wt.% of the sheath polymer.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) The filament of claim 24 claim 20, wherein the nylon sheath polymer has an AEG content of less than about 5 meq/kg.

26. (Original) The filament of claim 25, wherein the nylon sheath polymer is a nylon-6,12 homopolymer.

27. (Currently Amended) The filament of claim 20 or 26, wherein the nylon core is a nylon polymer which is at least one nylon selected from the group consisting of nylon-6, nylon-12, nylon-11, nylon-6/6, nylon-6/10 and copolymers and blends thereof.

28. (Canceled)